

# Shrewsbury Public Library

Fall 2006 News & Events

## A Note from the Director...

This past summer the Friends of the Library organization, the group that works to support library programs and services, announced the winner of their Annual Friends of the Library Scholarship program. Lisa Millette, a senior from Shrewsbury High School, won the \$500 award for her essay on how the library has influenced her life. In her entry she described the ways she has used the library or benefited from its services over the years.

She started the essay with “All at once, a library makes the world bigger and smaller...” describing how the library can provide access to a larger world of resources while also providing connections to one’s own community. With specific examples, she noted that the library influenced her by providing:

- New friendships through children’s activities and the teen volunteer group
- Recreation and diversion with videos to keep Lisa and her sister entertained while mom slept mornings after a late night work shift, and books and music to keep her entertained throughout the year
- Warm memories of craft programs, including a holiday tree ornament that still finds a place on her tree each season, special teen programs and studying with fellow students
- Support of school studies and spending countless hours researching her topic for a junior year performance assessment project
- A comfortable air-conditioned spot to do some quiet reading during the summer months

Lisa also described the ways that the library provided access to outside resources. She mentioned the interlibrary loan program that brings books and other materials from around the country to local users. She also talked about the library as a place for information on the community (bulletin boards with program and event postings, as well as microfilm with historic information about our community) and broader information about the world (through online reference databases and computer access.)

It’s clear that Lisa was familiar with library resources and made good use of them over the years. She might be thought of as a “power user”— one who’s well acquainted with and makes active use of library resources.

One of the library’s goals this year was to make sure that everyone has the opportunity to be a “power user”, but this requires that people are familiar with available services. To meet that goal, the library put together a traveling “road show” called “Rediscover Your Library.” Library staff members visit community groups and associations, and present information about the rich and varied resources available to library users. It’s a sort of “virtual tour” of services, collections and programs. The program has already been presented to over 600 people, and more presentations are planned this fall. After reading Lisa’s essay, I got to thinking that she touched on almost all the topics we cover in the “Rediscover Your Library” presentation and that she would make a great ambassador for the library.

You might want to join Lisa in the “power users” group and learn more about what the library offers. To find out more, you could take a look at the library website (<http://www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/library>) where you’ll find Lisa’s essay under the “Friends of the Library” section. You might also look into the Rediscover Your Library overview in the “Resources” section of the website. Best of all would be a visit to the library to discover the many services, programs and collections that await you. You could even request a “Rediscover Your Library” presentation before your group or association. Just contact George Brown or me at the library (508.842.0081). As Lisa notes, “there are too many things libraries have to offer to talk about in [one] essay.” We invite you to discover them yourself. Congratulations, Lisa, on your essay and grant award. We wish you success in your college years. With the knowledge and experiences you gained from the Shrewsbury Public Library, we expect that you’ll continue to benefit from and enjoy libraries throughout your life.

Sincerely,  
*Ellen M. Dolan*  
Library Director

# Children's Room News

## 'MY FIRST LIBRARY CARD' DESIGN CONTEST – Deadline October 2

Can you help us? Ideas are needed for the design of a child's first library card! We would like to make the first card special. If you have any ideas, please come to the children's room to get a contest form. The library staff will choose their favorite design, and the winning design will be on display. Children who have turned age 5 and are getting their first library card will be able to get the new cards starting in 2007.

## Feeding Today's Baby

**Wednesday, Sept. 13 at 7pm, and Thursday, Sept. 14 at 10am** - A recent National Ad Council campaign, entitled "Babies Were Born to be Breastfed," spurred discussion in the United States. Why have such a campaign? Come to the Shrewsbury Library to hear Debbie Page, a registered nurse and certified lactation consultant, speak on the different ways to feed babies in the early months of life: the pros and cons of breastmilk and formula, bottle feeding and breastfeeding. Bring your questions and concerns about feeding today's baby. No registration necessary.

## Discovery Day

**TAKE OUT LEARNING!** Come to the library **Tuesday, Sept. 26** to view our new Discovery Kits. Funded by a grant, we have created eleven kits on topics ranging from Art Appreciation to Weather. Homeschool parents, teachers, or anyone interested in "discovering" and learning will enjoy these kits. Inside the kits are books and other fun materials, all packaged in an easy and convenient rolling bag. **Tuesday, Sept. 26 - Special presentations at 2, 4, and 6pm.** No registration necessary.

This project is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the State of Massachusetts Library Services and Technology Act.

## Storytimes

### Baby and Me Storytime

A 30 minute program of stories, finger plays, songs, and movement designed for children ages birth to 2½ with an accompanying adult. Program starts at 10:30am. Siblings welcomed.

#### Session One

Tuesdays, Sept. 19 and 26  
Oct. 3 and 10

#### Session Two

Tuesdays, Nov. 7, 14,  
21 and 28

Due to limited space, a lottery will be held for each session. Lottery for **Session One:** Sept. 5-13, lottery for **Session Two:** Oct. 24-28.

## Preschool Storytime

**Celebrating World Cultures:** Learn about world cultures and festivals through stories and crafts. Ages 3 to 6. No registration necessary.

**Thursdays at 10:30am, September 21 and 28; October 5, 12, 19, and 26; November 9, 16, and 30; December 7, 14, and 21.**

# Children's Programs

## Mime Robert Rivest

**Saturday, September 30, 10am** - To help celebrate the Spirit of Shrewsbury, Robert Rivest will come to the Shrewsbury Public Library to perform *Laughter is the Best Medicine*, a collection of his most humorous and heartwarming mime stories. It's simply a fun way to bring the whole community together through smiles, giggles, and roaring laughter. Space is limited; free tickets will be available in the Children's Room beginning Friday, September 1. This program is funded by the Welcome Wagon Club of Shrewsbury.

## A 13<sup>TH</sup> UNFORTUNATE EVENT

**Saturday, October 14 at 10:30am** - To mourn the release of the 13th Lemony Snicket book, we will watch the movie "A Series of Unfortunate Events." (You can close your eyes if you want to.) To further depress and bore you, there will be an opportunity to make a dull and dreary craft. No registration required.

## THE BIG BOOO!

**Tuesday, October 31, 4 to 5pm**

Make the library your first stop for Halloween! Come in your costume, trick or treat around the Library, and listen to scary stories! For children ages 3½ and up. Required registration begins Tuesday, Oct. 10 in the Children's Room, or call (508) 842-0081 x4.



# Rediscover Your Library

## Youth Services at the Shrewsbury Public Library

Youth services have long been a focus of the Shrewsbury Public Library. Even early library records show concern for children. An 1886 report notes that the library “added 103 new books... many for children.” At first glance, that might not seem all that unusual, but it’s important to remember that youth services have not always been a part of the public library movement. The first public libraries in our country were founded in the 1600 and 1700’s. Children were not welcome in early libraries. In fact, special spaces for children in our public libraries didn’t appear until the late 1800’s. In 1895, the Boston Public Library was “the first library to establish a space specifically designated for children. It offered more than 3,000 books within the unhampered reach of young children.” The Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh is said to have the “first fully organized children’s department in 1899.” Shrewsbury can be quite proud for providing children’s books in 1886, and a separate Children’s Room in the Howe Library which opened in 1903.

In just over 100 years, youth collections, programs and services have become core to the public library mission. Great children’s books and engaging story hour and activity programs are the first early literacy experience for many babies, toddlers and pre-school children.

Programs for school age children keep kids connected to books and reading, and help them see libraries as places for enjoyment.

For teens just beginning to undertake the challenges of life, libraries can serve as a great source for information and enjoyment, to foster an understanding that libraries offer resources to enhance and enrich one’s life.

At the SPL, our Children’s Department focuses on children from birth through grade four, and our Young Adult Librarian serves pre-teens and teens in grades five up through high school. Services and collections are designed to meet the interests of children of different ages and respond to the unique needs of various developmental stages. There are story times for babies and parents, toddlers, preschoolers and older children. School aged children can find book discussion groups, craft programs and other activities. Teens help develop programs for their own population. The youth services collection is broad; it includes parenting titles for parents-to-be, board books and music for newborns, all the way up to books, databases and media for the college bound. Last year, 2,819 babies, children and teens attended more than 200 programs offered by the youth service staff. So while service to children was not part of the early public library tradition, it’s now a major component of our service to the community.

## Game Day

**Friday, November 24, all day** – Take a break from shopping! Come to the Children’s room and play one of our board games, or bring your own! Bring yourself and your friends. No registration required.

## National Aviation History Month

**Tuesday, November 7, 2pm (No school because of conferences)** – Celebrate Aviation History Month with Leonardo Da Vinci and his flying machines. Watch a movie about him, then build your own plane out of paper! Registration begins October 24.



## Archaeology Club

**Wednesdays at 5pm, October 4, 11, 18 and 25**  
How did people live and work in New England when the colonists met the Native Americans? Learn about food, clothing, shelter and daily life as revealed through the artifacts. For children in grades 3 and up. Registration begins September 20.



## How Do They Do That?

**Wednesdays at 5pm, November 1, 8 and 15**  
Crystals, Make it Move, Itty Bitty Stuff: You’ve read about it in stories, now you can do it in real life! For children in grades 3 and up. Registration begins October 18.



# Young Adult Programs

(for students in grades 5 through 12)

Are you a teen who loves the library? Are you a teen who hates the library? Want to make the library better? Consider joining SPLAT – Shrewsbury Public Library Advisory Team! SPLAT members help plan programs, select materials, and advocate for our library! To join, fill out an application and we'll contact you when we have our next meeting. Applications are available at the front desk of the library, or on the library website at

<http://www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/library/eventsya.asp>

To find out more about SPLAT, check out the blog:

<http://splatspl.blogspot.com>



## New Volunteer Training Sessions

Interested in volunteering at the library? We need fun, energetic, and responsible teens to help us out! Fill out an application at the front desk and join us for an orientation session. (All prospective volunteers MUST participate in an orientation session prior to volunteering.) This is a great way to earn community service hours and help out your community! Fall orientation sessions:

Sept. 7 at 3:30pm   Oct. 4 at 3:30pm   Nov. 8 at 3:30pm  
Sept. 20 at 6:30pm   Oct. 25 at 6:30pm   Nov. 29 at 6:30pm

Sessions will last 30 to 45 minutes. For more information, please email Sarah Sogigian, Volunteer Coordinator, at [ssogigia@cwmar.org](mailto:ssogigia@cwmar.org).

## 10 easy ways to impress your teachers



Want to impress your teachers this year? Want to learn how to access great resources from home? Come to one of our info sessions for some

quick, easy tips on doing library research:

Sept. 14 at 3pm, Oct. 24 at 6pm, Nov. 16 at 3pm

Each session will last an hour, and will guide you through the exotic jungle otherwise known as the Reference department. For students in grades 9-12; registration is required and can be done at the front desk or by calling the library.

## Teen Read Week 2006

We're celebrating Teen Read Week October 16-20! Check out the library's website and SPLAT's blog for info and events.

## YA Basket Raffle at Spirit of Shrewsbury

We're at it again! SPLAT will be holding a basket raffle at the Oak Street Expo on Saturday, September 30. Tickets are 50¢ each or 12 for \$5.00. Last year, we raised over \$500.00 for YA programming and furniture for our LOFT (Library Outlet For Teens.)

## YA Book/Movie Chats

October's YA Book Chat selection is *Stormbreaker* by Anthony Horowitz. Come to the library to discuss the book on **Thursday, October 5 at 3:30pm**. Then, go see the new movie in a theatre with the group on **Friday, October 6**. (Location, time, and cost TBA.) Registration is required and can be done at the library's front desk, or by calling 508.842.0081 x3.



November's YA Book Chat selection is *Godless* by Pete Hautman. Come to the library to discuss the book on **Thursday, November 9 at 4pm**. Copies of the book will be available at the front desk. No registration required, but participation for November's meeting is limited to students in grades 7-12 only.



 **spl is on  
myspace**

[www.myspace.com/shrewsburylibrary](http://www.myspace.com/shrewsburylibrary)

# SPL for Adults: News & Events

## Global Warming Lecture Series

An informative series on a timely topic, with opportunities to explore ways of taking action locally. All lectures will begin at 7pm.

- **Monday, Sept. 11:** Gilles Labelle, retired chemist and auto dealer, will talk about cars and their impact on global warming, with Jim Dunn of NASA, a fuel cell car expert.
- **Monday, Sept. 25:** Allen King, of Evergreen Solar, will speak about photovoltaic and passive solar energy.
- **Tuesday, Sept. 26:** Open discussion on the topic.
- **Monday, Oct. 2:** Ed Schofield, botanist and director of education at Tower Hill Botanical Garden, will speak on global warming, here and now.
- **Monday, Oct. 30:** Jackie Pratt of SELCO will discuss energy and electricity conservation.

## Shrewsbury Genealogy Club

We begin our sixth year with meetings on Monday, Sept. 25, Oct. 23, and Nov. 27, all at 7pm. The November meeting will feature a guest speaker from the National Archives and Records Administration regional office in Waltham on the topic: "Beyond the U.S. Census."

## Free Computer Workshops and Drop-in Help Sessions

The library offers free computer workshops and drop-in computer help sessions on an ongoing basis. Topics include mouse and keyboarding skills, Word Processing, Web Browsing, Email, Internet Research, using the Library Catalog, and more. Schedules are available at the library and on the library's website. Pre-registration is required. Please stop by the front desk or call us at 508-842-0081 ext. 3 for info and registration.

## MONSTER MOVIE MARATHON

**Saturday, October 28:** Get spooked with SPL at our all-day monster movie marathon! From open 'til close, we'll have 8 full hours of classics such as *Dracula*, *Frankenstein*, and *The Invisible Man*. Times and titles are subject to change; for more information contact Jason at 508.842.0081 x2.

## And So Much More!

**Wednesday, Sept. 6:** Mitch Gitkind, MD, of UMass Memorial Medical Center, will speak on "Weight loss options" at 7pm. **Tuesday, Oct. 3:** Career counselor Dave Ellinwood, M. Ed., leads a job search seminar at 7pm. **Tuesday, Oct. 10:** In conjunction with Massachusetts Archaeology Month, archaeologist Maryanne MacLeod will speak on "King Philip's War and the Archaeology of Central Massachusetts" at 7pm. **Monday, Oct. 23:** Norma Chang, the Traveling Gourmet, returns with a program and demonstration of "Low Fat, High Flavor Wokking."

## Thanks, Friends!

The Friends of the Shrewsbury Library do so much good work to help us provide the best library service we can. Here are just some of the ways they help out:

- sponsoring museum passes
- the 3rd Annual Baseball Cookout
- Free Concerts on the Common
- Children's and Adult Summer Reading prizes
- annual Friends booksale

**Thank you for all that you do!**

## Eclectic Browsers Book Group

The Eclectic Browsers Book Group begins its third year in September 2006. Come join the fun, meet new people, and discuss interesting books! The group meets the Fourth Thursday of every month at 10:30am. Snacks are provided, and new members are always welcome.

**Sept. 28:** *Women of the Silk* by Gail Tsukiyama.

**Oct. 26:** *Me: Stories of My Life* by Katharine Hepburn.

**Nov (date tba):** *Eye of the Needle* by Ken Follett.

**Dec. 28:** *Plain and Simple* by Sue Bender.

Books are available at the Circulation desk one month prior to book group meetings.

## Science Fiction Book Chats

**Sept. 13:** *The Day of the Triffids* by John Wyndham

**Oct. 4:** *V for Vendetta* by Alan Moore

**Nov. 1:** *Cell* by Stephen King

All Sci Fi Book Chats start at 7pm.

Shrewsbury Public Library  
609 Main Street  
Shrewsbury, MA 01545

Non-Profit Organization  
US Postage Paid  
Permit #192  
Worcester, MA 01613

ECRWSS  
Resident Customer  
Shrewsbury, MA 01545

### Library Hours

Mon.-Wed. 10am-9pm  
Thurs.-Sat. 9am-5pm  
Sun 1-5pm

### Contact Information

Phone: 508-842-0081  
Fax: 508-841-8540  
TTY: 508-841-8530

<http://www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/library>

Moe Depalo of Pool  
and Spa Place, for  
donating a grill that  
raised over \$800 for  
library programs.

Building 19  
for donating \$400  
from their hot dog  
sales fundraiser

### Teen Summer Reading Club Prize Donors

Borders Newbury Comics  
Commerce Bank

April Jones Prince, Sira Frongillo Naras,  
and Donald Rising for their fun and  
informative Children's programs

The Worcester Tornadoes, the  
Boston Red Sox, and Frito Lay  
for donating time and items  
to the Baseball Cookout



All the teen and  
adult volunteers  
who helped in the  
Children's room and  
Tech Services

The various places in  
Shrewsbury that hosted  
Gulliver the Gnome

### Adult Summer Reading Club Prize Donors

Trader Joe's Curves Shrewsbury Borders  
Amici's Trattoria/Willie's Steakhouse  
Panera Bread The Other Place Pub  
Total Relaxation Massage Therapy  
The Friends of the Shrewsbury Library

Bonnie O'Brien, Senator Edward  
Augustus, Representative Karyn  
Polito, Dr. Anthony Bent, Joe Geary,  
Dan Morgado, and John Lebeaux for  
participating in our Monday Night  
Celebrity Storytime